

THE BULLETIN.

BOLIVAR, TENN.

JESSE NORMENT, Editor.

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The Legislature, before adjournment, elected Atha Thomas Treasurer, and P. P. Pickard Comptroller.

The talk of Secretary Manning's resignation has been again revived. He is one of the ablest of the President's Cabinet, and the country and the Democratic party stand in need of his services. It is to be hoped that the report is without foundation in fact.

With another Railroad to regulate freights, Bolivar would, in a short while have cotton factories; woolen mills, a hub and spoke factory and a furniture factory. She would increase in population and trade; and would give to our farmers that greatest of all boons to an American farmer a home market for their products.

The Prohibition amendment to the constitution has passed the Senate and gone to the House. Then it will be taken up in due time, passed, and sent to the Governor, who will sign it, and then there will come one of the most exciting, hard fought and bitter election ever held in the State.

Cholera has made its appearance in more than one of the South American countries, and fears are entertained by the health authorities for the safety of this country.

John J. Littleton, editor of the National Review, has been named by the Republican Executive Committee of Davidson County, the candidate of the party to fill the place in the House of Representatives made vacant by the death of E. G. Connette. Mr. Littleton is a bitter partisan, and hates a mugwump with an undisciplined hatred. He is a man of good ability, and has won the respect of even his political enemies by his boldness. Whatever his political sins, and there are many, he is not a canting political hypocrite. By his recklessness in denouncing all who do not agree with him, he has incurred the displeasure of many of his political friends, and it is believed that he can and will be defeated at the polls.

The tariff reformers in the House have signified a willingness to meet Mr. Randall and his followers in a spirit of compromise, in order to effect a reduction in tariff taxation, and if that very much desired result is not accomplished, the latter will be solely responsible for taking more money from the people than the Government needs. But it is doubtful if Mr. Randall will abandon his pet plan of reducing the tax on whiskey and tobacco, and leaving the tax on the necessities of life practically unchanged. Free whiskey and a heavy tax on the necessities of life, will never meet the approval of the people of Tennessee, no matter what the people of Pennsylvania may think of it.

The re-election of Hon. Atha Thomas to the position of Treasurer, and of Hon. P. P. Pickard, to that of Comptroller, meets the approbation of the people of Tennessee. The people, as well as the creditors of Tennessee, feel that its finances are in safe hands. It will require good management to tide this state over the next two years without an increased rate of taxation, and the members of the Legislature felt that this was not the time to make a change in those very important offices. Witless and inexperienced men at the head of the financial department of the state government, the interests of the State, at this very critical period in its financial history, might have suffered.

During the last two years the demands upon our state Treasurer to meet extraordinary expenses have been unusually large. During that period about \$1,000,000 have been needed to meet demands outside of the usual and ordinary expenses of the Government, such as the Torbett Issue, back interest upon State Bonds, for the erection of the Asylum for East Tennessee, the buying of Codes, etc. This has all been accomplished with a tax of 30 cents on each \$100 worth of taxable values. Next year, at the farthest, will see the last of the Torbett issue certificates taken in and cancelled. Besides these, the only demand of an extraordinary character will be an appropriation for the completion of the Asylum for West Tennessee. We confidently predict that without an increase in the rate of taxation the ordinary expenses of the State Government can be met, the Torbett issue certificates retired, and the West Tennessee Asylum completed during the next two years.

WHAT IT MEANS.

The time has come when the cry of the mugwumps, that there is no precedent for a Democratic caucus in Tennessee, will be heard no more in the land. The Democratic members of the present Legislature have shown themselves to be equal to the emergency, and have placed the party organization in this State upon such a solid basis that the assaults of the disorganizers will fall harmlessly at its base. The Democratic caucus was a grand success. It not only selected efficient and capable men for all of the places to be filled by the General Assembly, but it demonstrated the fact that there is sufficient wisdom and moderation in the Democratic ranks to discharge well the duties devolving upon it as the majority party without assistance from the opposition. The democracy of Tennessee is to be congratulated upon this important step in the direction of thorough party organization. Party men, of both political parties, admit the correctness of this policy. It is not only a great saving of time, which means a saving of money to the taxpayers, but it throws the responsibility for the conduct of public officials upon the majority party, where it properly belongs. Bate, Thomas, and Pickard owe their tenure of office solely to Democrats, and the Democrats of Tennessee are alone responsible for the manner in which they discharge the several trusts committed to them. This movement means that in the future the party lines are to be closely drawn. The occupation of the mugwump is gone, and a man will have to be either a Democrat or a Republican. There is no middle ground. It means that if candidates cannot stand before the members of their own political households, they must go to the wall. It is our candid opinion that if this movement is followed up by holding conventions, or primary elections, as to all of the county officers, it will be worth thousands of votes to the Democratic party in this State. There has been too much coquetting with Republicans in Tennessee on the part of Democratic candidates. A man elected to an office by a combination of Democratic and Republican votes, is not worth anything to either party. This movement means that there is to be an end of hypocrisy and double-dealing in politics. Political parties are necessary in republics, and party organization is equally necessary in order to carry out party tenets. Hereafter half-breed politicians will be at a discount, and none but thoroughbreds will stand any show.

THE TENNESSEE.

A glance at Killebrew's map of Tennessee will show, that a road built directly from Memphis to Nashville crossing the Tennessee River at Brown's or Cedar Creek Furnaces or at Webb's Landing and thence by Henderson, Bolivar and Somerville, would divide almost equally the country between the Charleston Road and the Louisville & Nashville, would traverse the best mineral and timber lands of Tennessee, and would be the shortest, most direct and cheapest route by which to unite the two great cities of the State. This line would build up and maintain a local business that could not be made tributary to a competing line and develop a country rich in agriculture, timber and mineral wealth. A railroad built on this route would run thirty miles through Hardeman county, and would add to our taxable wealth a half million of dollars, which would be increased by the enhanced value of lands and the development of our timber and other interest. The people of Hardeman County and the citizens of Bolivar, especially, should use every effort and be willing to make any sacrifice to obtain this road. As we are now situated we can not hope to grow and keep pace with other towns favored with better railroad facilities and cheaper freights. We cannot use our capital in working up our raw material, and, although we should be ever so anxious, we cannot take advantage of our natural resources and turn them into the useful channels of trade for the want of cheap transportation. We now have a chance, in aiding to construct this railroad, to build up our town and our county, to increase our taxable wealth, and to open up the way for all kinds of manufactures. Shall we, for the want of an amount to aid this enterprise, lose it? Our people show that they appreciate this opportunity and work to obtain it. Other towns feel the want of this road, and are striving to obtain it, and we, in order to get it, must work together and agree to aid in its construction. The meeting last week indicated the great interest our people feel, and we believe that anything the committee appointed may promise or do, will be heartily endorsed and sustained by the citizens of Bolivar.

The members of the Legislature, after a week's recess and consultation with their constituents, will meet again for business on the 26th.

THE SOUTH'S PROGRESS.

The New York Times correspondent sends back to his paper the most favorable and flattering reports of progress throughout the South. The Times says:—The letters from our correspondent from Virginia and Tennessee show a kind and degree of progress in the South such as is now going on nowhere else in the United States and probably nowhere else in the world, and this because nowhere else are the conditions so favorable. The only movement in this country that can be compared to it is the one that took place from 1830 to 1850 in what are the Central and were then the Western States. The Southern movement differs from that one in that it is far more varied including not only agriculture, though this is not by any means absent, but great numbers and kinds of manufactures and mining. It differs also in that a new country has not to be settled and wrested from the wilderness, but there is a solid basis of organization, social, political and commercial, on which to build. Again, the resources and the methods of those engaged in the Southern movement are of a far higher and more efficient sort than those of half a century since. There is a vast accumulation of available capital ready for actual investment. A banking system as nearly perfect as the world has ever seen is ready to facilitate all legitimate enterprise. The currency, whatever may be its future, is safe and uniform, and cannot be vitiated or endangered by the adventures of speculators, financial fanatics or swindlers, as that of the last generation could be and often was. Communication of all sorts, for passengers and freight, and for exchanges, is rapid, extensive, safe, and constantly growing cheaper. The one thing common to both movements is the American spirit of energy, self-reliance and indomitable courage. It is not too much to say that enormous as was the advantage to the country from the Western movement, that made possible in the South fairly ranks with it; and involved even a greater future.

The above is as strong an endorsement as any Southern paper could make, and shows that the development of the resources of the South is attracting attention from all quarters of the Union. The Times even places the present industrial movement in the South above that which took place in the West just previous to the war, and says that it is not confined to agriculture alone, but to the development of mineral wealth and manufactures as well, and thus the good work goes on. But what is Hardeman County doing to keep in line with the progress? Are our people awake to the possibilities of the future and the aid of new enterprises or do they still brood over the past? This can but be answered by the aid they give and the interest shown in the enterprises now inaugurated, which, when completed, will put us in the advanced line of that progress which is making the South the most favored section of the Union.

The fears which are agitating some people at the United States and Great Britain will be involved in a war on account of the Canadian fisheries dispute, we hope and believe are groundless. Neither country has anything to gain by such a conflict, and we feel confident that there is no real danger on that score.

The Corpse Misled

In a back country town, where funerals serve much the same purpose that the theater does in cities, there chanced to die one of the members of the community, and one of the neighbors was asked to "take charge of the funeral." On the day appointed the community assembled and stood about in groups discussing either the departed or the condition of the crops, while the neighbor in charge bustled from one room to another making the last arrangements. The hour of the funeral arrived and passed, and yet the services did not begin. Still more time passed, and the manager of affairs was seen to be hurrying from room to room, looking anxiously about as if in search of something.

As time passed the audience began to show signs of curiosity as the perplexed face of the man in charge appeared again before them. There was evidently a "hitch" in the proceedings somewhere, and an explanation was necessary. Mounting a chair the impromptu undertaker said: "My friends, we are very sorry to cause any delay in the—ah—last rites to the departed, but the—ah—truth is we have misled the corpse." It transpired that the coffin had been brought down to the lower entry, or hall, from a chamber, and through some misunderstanding placed beside the stairway in the shadow. Those coming in from the bright sunlight had thrown their wraps upon it, not realizing what it was, and thus made it invisible. —Harper's for January.

THE TALLEST OF KNOWN MEN.

The London Standard says: "There appeared at the London Pavilion last evening, for the first time in this country, the tallest man whose height has been recorded in modern times. The new giant is an Austrian named Winkelmeier, and his height is 8 feet 9 inches, which is over 1 foot more than that of Chang, the Chinese giant. Winkelmeier was born at Friedberg, near Salzburg, Upper Austria, in 1865, his parents being in an humble station in life. He is the youngest of a family of five children, none of whom are of abnormal stature, nor are his parents or grandparents unusually tall. His fingers span two octaves on a piano, and the stretch of his arms is enormous. He showed no development of this extraordinary growth up to the age of 14, but since then he has been growing rapidly, and medical authorities in Berlin and Paris have expressed the opinion that he is likely to increase till he is 25. The young man is healthy, strong and intelligent. Beyond doubt he is one of the greatest curiosities of the day and his appearance last night side by side with a diminutive member of the Schaffer troupe of acrobats was extraordinary. A huge bed had been constructed for him in the building of the pavilion, which will be his home for some time to come."

The Tariff and the South.

The Baltimore Manufacturers' Record has issued an extra sheet, designed to support the present high tariff, especially as a blessing to the South. The manifesto is drawn up with great adroitness. The Louisville Courier had made certain statements as to the tariff in increasing the prices of taxed articles, and therefore the expense of these articles to the buyer. The Record meets these statements by exhibiting a list of fifty-five articles, the prices of which have declined since 1873. The two papers might cavil for months about the figures each has put out, but the inquiry as to whether free trade or protection is best for the country would stand still while they were discussing these details. If the Record showed that where prices have declined, that benefit to the people was secured to them by the system of protection, then it would insure a triumph for high tariff measures. But it fails to do that. If it showed that paying on average of 43 per cent on the vast number of articles the tariff includes in its operations made those goods cheaper than they would be without a 43 per cent tax, then it would have accomplished much; but this it does not do. Improvement of manufactures, as in iron and steel; more ready communication from the extension of railroads; the recovery of the country from the effects of war; and especially the lowering effect upon prices of the severe depression we have suffered, and other influences it is not necessary to recapitulate, have lowered the prices of many articles during the time high tariff has existed. These declines of price were not the consequence of high tariff; they came in spite of high tariff, not because of it. This being the case the Record's list of fifty-five articles that have lowered in price, is only a dispute with the Journal about figures; it leaves the free trade and protection problems just where they were before. Will the Record undertake to say that if the 44 per cent tax were removed the taxed articles would be dearer in consequence? Will it say they would not be cheaper? If it cannot say these things what do its fifty-five rows of figures amount to, as proof that it is a blessing to the South? Will the Record show that, if the tax were taken off iron cotton ties, it would be an injury to the cotton planter? Or, if the tax on tin plate were removed it would damage the interests of the Southern grower when he cans his fruits and his vegetables? Before the tax on quinine was removed that article sold in the stores at \$3 to \$3.25 the ounce bottle. The New York Drug Reporter, of January 12 quotes the wholesale prices of American quinine at 53 to 65 cents an ounce, French 58 to 63 cents. Can the Record assert that this great lowering of price, through the removal of the tariff tax, is an impairment of the interests of the farmers who reside in the low, swampy regions of portions of the South? When the Record proves that high tariff makes merchandise cheaper, and the reduction of the tax makes them dearer, its arguments will do what its fifty-five rows of elaborately grouped figures entirely fail to accomplish. The Record is very adroit however, while displaying its list of articles lower in price now than in 1873; it does not say that they were cheapened by the tariff, but the unvarying reader of the Record's extra will hardly fail to regard such an assertion as implied, and will be bamboozled accordingly.—Appeal

A Modest Hope.

The members of one of the numerous cliques of the American colony are enjoying the bon mot of a certain society, well! A debutante was being discussed by a small group of her acquaintances. The young woman is the charming daughter of a charming mother, a peculiarity of the latter being to wear her toilettes very décolleté. The friends of the young woman were saying all kinds of good things of her, and were prophesying for her a brilliant social career. "Well, there's one thing," said the young man in question, "I do hope she won't outstrip her mother."—Paris Letter.

No Wonder the North Has The Edge If the South were getting \$100,000,000 in pensions every year you would hear of Southern capital flowing North, and some Northern journal would be mean enough to rise up and say that the said capital did not, after all, represent the difference in the financial success of the two sections, nor of their ability. —Macon Telegraph.

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